

R309-352. Capacity Development Program

Note: The Division of Drinking Water is currently revising rules. Because of this, some of the references to rule numbers outside of this document may be invalid. This rule will eventually be rewritten as R309-800.

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Rule R309-352. Capacity Development Program.

R309-352-1. Authority.

(1) Under authority granted in Subsection 19-4-104(1)(a)(v), the Drinking Water Board adopts this rule implementing the capacity development program and governing the allotment of federal funds to public water systems to assist them to comply with the Federal 1996 Reauthorized Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA).

R309-352-2. Purpose.

(1) The SDWA makes certain federal funds available to states, section 1452(k)(2)(C) to provide assistance to any public water system as part of a capacity development strategy developed and implemented in accordance with section 1420(c) to ensure all new public water systems will be able to comply with the SDWA, to enhance existing public water systems' capability to comply with the SDWA, and determine which public water systems applying for financial assistance are eligible to use the State Revolving Funds.

(2) The purpose of the Capacity Development Program is to enhance and ensure the technical, financial, and managerial capacity of water systems. The long range goals are to promote compliance with drinking water regulations for the long term and the public health protection objectives of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

R309-352-3. Definitions.

(1) Definitions for terms used in this rule are given in R309-200, except as modified below.

(2) "Capacity Development" means technical, managerial, and financial capabilities of the water system to plan for, achieve, and maintain compliance with applicable drinking water standards.

(3) "Drinking Water Region Planning" means a county wide water plan, administered locally by a coordinator, who facilitates the input of representatives of each public water system in the county with a selected consultant, to determine how each public water system will either collectively or individually comply with source protection, operator certification, monitoring including consumer confidence reports, capacity development including technical, financial and managerial aspects, environmental issues, available funding and related studies.

(4) "Small Water System" means a water system with less than 3,300 people being served.

(5) "Public Water System" means a system providing water for human consumption and other domestic uses through pipes or other constructed conveyances, which has at least 15 service connections or serves an average of at least 25 individuals daily at least 60 days out of the year.

(6) "Non-Community Water System" (NCWS) means a public water system that is not a community water system. There are two types of NCWS's: transient and non-transient.

(7) Non-Transient Non-Community Water System (NTNCWS) means a public water system that regularly serves at least 25 of the same nonresident persons per day for more than six months per year. Examples of such systems are those serving the same individuals (industrial workers, school children, church members) by means of a separate system.

(8) "New Water System" means a system that will become a community water system or non-transient, non-community water system on or after October 1, 1999.

(9) "Required reserve" means funds set aside to meet requirements set forth in a loan covenant/bond indenture.

R309-352-4. General.

(1) Capacity development criteria are to be used as a guideline for all water systems. These criteria constitute a standard applied when reviewing new systems applications, reviewing applications for financial assistance and assessing capacity of water systems rated unapproved or in significant non-compliance by the State or the EPA.

(2) Water systems shall meet the following criteria:

(a) Technical Capacity Criteria:

(i) Finished water shall meet all drinking water standards as required by Utah State Rules;

(ii) Personnel shall operate the system in accordance with the operations and maintenance manual;

(iii) A valid water right shall be obtained;

(iv) Water system shall meet source, storage, and distribution requirements as per Utah State Rules;

(v) Water system shall not be rated unapproved or in significant noncompliance by the State or the EPA.

(b) Managerial Capacity Criteria:

(i) The system owner(s) shall be clearly identified to the Executive Secretary;

(ii) The system shall meet all of the operator certification requirements as per R309-301 and backflow technician certification requirements as per R309-302.

(iii) A system or method shall be in-place to effectively maintain all requisite records, distribution system histories/maps, and compliance information; and

(iv) An operating plan shall include names and certification level of the system operator(s), facility operation and maintenance manuals, routine maintenance procedures, water quality violations response procedures, water quality monitoring plan, training plan, and emergency response plan;

(v) The Executive Secretary of the Drinking Water Board shall be informed of management changes.

(c) Financial Capacity Criteria:

(i) Revenues shall be greater than expenses;

(ii) A financial statement compilation by a Certified Public Accountant, or an audit if otherwise required of the water system, shall be completed every three years;

(iii) The water system shall devise and implement a managerial budget and accounting process in accordance with generally accepted principals;

(iv) The operating ratio (operating revenue divided by operating expenses excluding depreciation and required reserves) shall be greater than 1.0;

(v) The coverage ratio (total revenues minus operating expenses excluding depreciation and required reserves divided by annual debt service) shall be greater than 1.0;

(vi) Customers shall be metered; and

(vii) An emergency/replacement reserve shall be created and funded.

R309-352-5. Requirements for New Community and New Non-transient, Non-community Water Systems.

(1) Feasibility Review, (See R309-101-3).

(2) Each proposed, new water system must demonstrate that it has adequate technical, managerial, and financial capacity before it may provide water for human consumption. Proposed water systems shall submit the following for Capacity Assessment Review:

(3) Project Notification form (see R309-201-6),

(4) A business plan, which includes a facilities plan, management plan, and financial plan.

(a) Facilities plan. The facilities plan shall describe the scope of the water services to be provided and shall include the following:

(i) A description of the nature and extent of the area to be served, and provisions for extending the water supply system to include additional area. The description shall include population and land use projections and forecasts of water usage;

(ii) An assessment of current and expected drinking water compliance based on monitoring data from the proposed water source;

(iii) A description of the alternatives considered, including interconnections with other existing water systems, and the reasons for selecting the method of providing water service. This description shall include the technical, managerial, financial and operational reasons for the selected method, and

(iv) An engineering description of the facilities to be constructed, including the construction phases and future phases and future plans for expansion. This description shall include an estimate of the full cost of any required construction, operation, and maintenance;

(b) Management plan. The management plan shall describe what is needed to provide for effective management and operation of the system and shall include the following:

(i) Documentation that the applicant has the legal right and authority to take the measures necessary for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the system. The documentation shall include evidence of

ownership if the applicant is the owner of the system or, if the applicant is not the owner, legally enforceable management contracts or agreements;

(ii) An operating plan that describes the tasks to be performed in managing and operating the system. The operating plan shall consist of administrative and management organization charts, plans for staffing the system with certified operators, and provisions for an operations and maintenance manual; and

(iii) Documentation of credentials of management and operations personnel, cooperative agreements or service contracts including demonstration of compliance with R309-301 water system operator certification rule; and

(c) Financial plan. The financial plan shall describe the system's expected revenues, cash flow, income and issuance and repayment of debt for meeting the costs of construction, and the costs of operation and maintenance for at least five years from the date the applicant expects to begin system operation.

(5) After the information submitted by the applicant is complete, the Division of Drinking Water shall conduct a Capacity Assessment Review. The applicant shall be notified in writing whether or not the new system has demonstrated adequate capacity. No new community or non-transient, non-community system will be approved if it lacks adequate capacity.

(6) Those systems constructed without approval shall be subject to: points as per R309-150, administrative and/or civil penalties and fines.

R309-352-6. Minimum Capacity Required for Financial Assistance Under Provisions of R309- 351.

(1) To obtain financial assistance, the applicant shall follow a two-step application process. First, the applicant shall complete a short application to establish a position on the priority list. A second application shall include Capacity Assessment Worksheets, project information, and financial information to verify priority ranking, determine eligibility, and provide a basis for grant/loan parameters.

(2) Financial assistance under the provisions of R309-351 shall not be available to a system that lacks the technical, managerial, or financial capability to maintain SDWA compliance, or is in significant noncompliance with any R309-101 through 104 or 200 through 211, unless the use of the financial assistance will ensure compliance or if the owner of the system agrees to undertake feasible and appropriate changes in operation to ensure technical, managerial, and financial capacity to comply with the SDWA over the long term.

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